



Minutes/Notes of 16th Meeting of the **EARTH** Group at ASC
Tuesday, November 4, 2008
Noon, Student Life Center, SUB
<http://www.adams.edu/sustainability> (our website)
<http://ascearth.wordpress.com/> (blog – add a comment!)

Present: Christy Miller, Cameron Miller, Mary Jo Martin, Mary Hoffman, Larry Sveum, Georgia Anderson, Gary Potter, Kailee Potter, Christine Preiss, Paul Kobe, Neil Rudolph, Jared Beeton, Don Thompson, Kristin Young-Jaramillo, Karen Lemke, Edgar Thomas, Marty Jones.


Next regular meeting: Tuesday, December 2, at noon in the Student Life Center of the SUB.

Announcements and Action Items:

- There have been many emails back and forth between the Trustees and ASC administrators regarding a solar photovoltaic power plant for Adams State College. Thus far, no agreement on any substantive issue has been reached. I know that there is still interest among all parties (Trustees, ASC, and potential providers), so there is still hope for solar electricity. You can help by continuing to express your desire to bring a solar photovoltaic facility to our campus! Write letters to the board, to our administration, to the South Coloradan, and speak up whenever possible.
- As part of the Recycle America Day Celebration, the Recycling Task Force, headed by Christine Preiss, is asking all EARTH members to help with a project. Beginning this Monday, November 10 and continuing through Friday (11/14) morning, as you pass by trash cans where you work/attend class/hang out, please remove from the trash any recyclable plastic bottles or aluminum cans. Instead of placing these items in nearby recycling containers, collect them (you can use your EARTH bags!) and bring them to the solarium at the SUB on Friday, November 14 at 10:30. There will be a tarp on the floor onto which you can dump your recyclable materials. The anticipated big pile of bottles and cans that could have been recycled (but weren't) should make a visible statement and raise the consciousness of our campus community members toward recycling. Volunteers are also needed to staff an information table on Friday, November 14 from 10:30 to 1:30. Please contact Christine (preissca@gmail.com) to volunteer for ½ hour slots during that time.
- ASC Community Partnerships is sponsoring a Recycle Expo from November 10-20, 2008. The Expo will be at the Community Partnerships building (half-dome shaped building south of Richardson Hall, just west of the Theatre building) and will be open from 9-5 each day. On Monday, 11/10, there will be an opening reception at 5 pm. On that same day at 6 pm will be a showing of the film "Garbage Warrior" in room 227 of the Art building (just east of the Theatre building). On Saturday 11/15, from noon-2 pm there will be a recycled materials fashion show (featuring some of our EARTH members), awards, and another reception. On Thursday, 11/20, viewers' choice award will be announced. Be sure to attend this fascinating Expo!
- Volunteers (especially among student members) are still being solicited to become part of the committee to plan EARTH week activities for next April. Meetings of this committee should begin prior to the end of this semester. Thus far, the committee is comprised of James and Angela Bedard, Linda Relyea, Jared Beeton, and Marty Jones. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Marty (mbjones@adams.edu). If you are not able to join the committee, but have some ideas for activities during that week, please contact one of the committee members.
- Last year, EARTH participated in the Focus the Nation event to promote understanding and action with regard to global climate change. There will be another Focus the Nation in January 2009, and we should again participate in or help organize the event. Please contact Marty (mbjones@adams.edu) if you are interested in volunteering for this event. We'll need to get started on this pronto!
- Mary Jo reported that Community Partnerships is still working with Safeway on the EARTH reusable grocery bag initiative. Currently City Market is the only store in town to give a donation to the college every time you use your EARTH bag. With any luck, Safeway will also come on board soon!
- There has been no action with respect to the Trayless Dining Initiative in the cafeteria at the SUB. I just spoke with Stephanie Lewis, the Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services/SUB, who said that a the new


Director of Food Services for Sodexo has just come on board, and Stephanie would like for the Director to get settled in before we start the Trayless Dining. Probably, then, we won't do anything on this until the spring semester. However, if you eat at the cafeteria, please go trayless and let your fellow diners know why you have made that choice (saves money via hot water, dish soap, etc.).


Task Force Reports


 Energy – Cameron reported that the Energy Task Force is still working on a “Turn out the lights” campaign on campus. Karla is working with the Print Shop to have them make stickers to put up on light switches and rooms requesting that lights be turned out when the room is not in use. Please contact Cameron (cdmiller@adams.edu) if you are willing to help put up some stickers/signs. He'll let you know when the stickers are ready.

Cameron is sitting on the capital fee committee (student-approved fee from last spring) and reported that the committee just chose an architect for campus planning. One important aspect of the planning is energy savings. The committee is also looking at companies to do an energy plan for the campus. The plan would include an energy audit for the entire campus and a plan to implement energy savings recommendations. The company's fees would be paid from the resulting energy savings. Renewable energy technology will be a major portion of any plan that is accepted by the committee.

Cameron also found two plans for solar water heaters, one using recycled two-liter soda bottles and one using recycled aluminum cans. A group of interested folks will be meeting Saturday, Nov. 8 to construct a small version of the soda bottle heater for proof of concept and for display at the Recycle Expo next week. If you would like to participate, come to the shop at Porter Hall (room) at 10 am on Saturday to help.

 Recycling – This task force is also investigating opportunities for glass recycling and picking up plastic/cans at basketball games. If you are interested in helping with the latter, contact Dan Carver (carverd@adams.edu) and/or Christine (preissca@gmail.com) to offer your services for this activity. Last year, Dan and his crew recycled hundreds of plastic bottles from the games and made a nice mosaic from the bottle caps (see notes from the 7th meeting).

 Transportation – Christine reported that the Green Bike Program is still seeing significant use this fall. There is always a waiting list to “rent” one of the green bikes. Unfortunately, the number of working bikes continues to decrease. We need to explore the possibility of getting better quality new/used bikes instead of cheap used bikes that don't hold up to the wear and tear of being a rental bike.

 Communications/Education/Publicity – Kristin reported that more Sustainability Tips are needed. Please send these tips to Katie Silva (kgsilva@adams.edu).

Thanks for all of your work for EARTH.

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Submitted by Marty Jones, 11/7/08